2013 Noble County Property Tax Report with Comparison to 2012

Legislative Services Agency

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Indiana County

Property Tax
Studies

2012 and 2012

$m{T}$ his report describes property tax changes in Noble County between 2012 and 2013.

Property tax changes in 2013 were affected most by local factors, such as changes in assessed values, deductions, levies, credits, and tax rates. However, three statewide trends affected a large number of counties.

- First, pay-2013 was a statewide reassessment year. In past reassessments there
 were double-digit percentage increases in assessed values, but this time
 assessments were almost unchanged statewide. The difference was trending, which has been adjusting
 assessments annually since 2007. Few counties experienced large assessment increases in 2013. Many
 experienced assessment decreases.
- Second, farmland assessments continued to rise, with the base rate of an acre increasing 8.7% from \$1,500 to \$1,630. High commodity prices and low interest rates were the reason. Rising farmland assessments were especially important in rural counties, where farmland is a larger part of total assessed value.
- Third, many local income tax credit rates increased substantially. This was due to a corrected distribution of local income tax revenues to local governments. Extra income tax revenue was applied to tax credits in 2013. This may mean that credit rates will fall (and tax bills will rise) in 2014.

Still, local factors were most influential in individual counties in 2013. Here is what affected taxes in Noble County.

	Average Change in Tax Bill, All Property	Total Levy, All Units	Certified Net Assessed Value	Tax Cap Credits % of Levy
2013	1.8%	\$37,901,834	\$1,875,934,065	2.3%
Change		2.6%	-2.3%	
2012	-7.3%	\$36,936,708	\$1,920,198,053	2.0%

The total tax bill for all taxpayers in Noble County increased by 1.8% in 2013. The main reason was a 2.6% increase in the total property tax levy. In this reassessment year, certified net assessed value decreased by 2.3%. The certified assessment decrease and levy increase caused tax rates to rise, and the higher tax rates caused an increase in tax cap credits as a percent of the levy from 2.0% in 2012 to 2.3% in 2013.

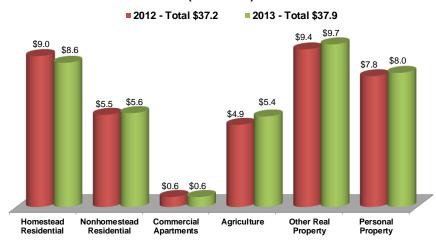
Noble County homeowners experienced a 5.8% decrease in property tax bills in 2013. This was due to an increase in local property tax credits and a decrease in homestead net assessed value, which more than offset an increase in property tax rates. Statewide, the average homeowner's tax bill was almost unchanged.

Comparable Homestead Property Tax Changes in Noble County

	2012 to 2013				
	Number of	% Share			
	Homesteads	of Total			
Summary Change in Tax Bill					
Higher Tax Bill	4,378	35.6%			
No Change	269	2.2%			
Lower Tax Bill	7,642	62.2%			
Average Change in Tax Bill	-5.8%				
Detailed Change in Tax Bill					
20% or More	1,172	9.5%			
10% to 19%	1,057	8.6%			
1% to 9%	2,149	17.5%			
-1% to 1%	269	2.2%			
-1% to -9%	2,969	24.2%			
-10% to -19%	2,376	19.3%			
-20% or More	2,297	18.7%			
Total	12,289	100.0%			

Note: Percentages may not total due to rounding.

Comparison of Net Property Tax by Property Type (In Millions)



In Noble County most net property taxes were paid by business (other real and personal) and homestead property owners in 2013. Total net property taxes increased 1.8%, similar to the average 2.1% increase statewide. Agriculture saw the largest increase, while homestead net taxes decreased by the largest percentage.

Property tax rates increased in all but one of the 22 Noble County tax districts in 2013. The average tax rate rose by 5.0% because of the levy increase and the decrease in certified net assessed value. Statewide, the average tax rate increased by 4.2%.

The total levies of all government units in Noble County increased by 2.6%,

compared to a 3.7% statewide levy increase. Detailed levy changes for local governments in Noble County are included in a later table.

D	Gross AV	Gross AV	Gross AV	Net AV	Net AV	Net AV
Property Type	Pay 2012	Pay 2013	Change	Pay 2012	Pay 2013	Change
Homesteads	\$1,514,537,526	\$1,474,211,453	-2.7%	\$613,590,611	\$584,590,085	-4.7%
Other Residential	351,969,901	343,047,275	-2.5%	350,087,017	341,169,556	-2.5%
Ag Business/Land	325,094,435	341,506,888	5.0%	321,343,839	336,262,068	4.6%
Business Real/Personal	937,538,055	905,308,750	-3.4%	729,459,661	727,117,349	-0.3%
Total	\$3,129,139,917	\$3,064,074,366	-2.1%	\$2,014,481,128	\$1,989,139,058	-1.3%

Net AV equals gross AV less deductions and exemptions. Certified net AV is set with the budget, certified by the county auditor and used to calculate tax rates. It may be adjusted by the auditor to account for appeals. Net AV in the above table is summed from tax bills. It includes TIF allocations while certified net AV does not. Gross AV also is summed from tax bills. Circuit breaker tax caps are calculated on gross AV.

Noble County's total billed net assessed value decreased by 1.3% in 2013. Declines in homestead assessments were the main reason. Net assessed value for all of Indiana was nearly unchanged, rising by only 0.1%.

Tax Cap Category	2012	2013	Difference	% Change	
1%	\$18,180	\$5,597	-\$12,583	-69.2%	
2%	2% 746,431		151,038	20.2%	
3%	6,226	7,528	1,302	20.9%	
Elderly	24,446	21,255	-3,191	-13.1%	
Total \$795		\$931,848	\$136,566	17.2%	
% of Levy	2.0%	2.3%			

Total tax cap credits in Noble County were \$931,848, which was 2.3% of the levy. This was less than the state average of 10.9%, and less than the median or typical county percentage of 4.2%. Tax rates were the main determinant of tax cap credits. Noble County's average tax rate was near the median rate statewide.

Tax cap credits as a share of the levy were below the statewide median because of the county's substantial local homestead credit, funded by local income taxes. Almost all of the tax cap credits in Noble County were in the 2% nonhomestead residential/farmland category. A later table shows tax cap credits by category for each local government unit.

Tax cap credits in Noble County increased \$136,566 between 2012 and 2013. Credits as a share of the total levy rose to 2.3% in 2013 from 2.0% in 2012.

Noble County Levy Comparison by Taxing Unit

						% Change			
						2009 -	2010 -	2011 -	2012 -
Taxing Unit	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
County Total	37,212,567	35,232,896	37,604,121	36,936,708	37,901,834	-5.3%	6.7%	-1.8%	2.6%
Noble County	7,529,164	7,265,418	7,259,476	7,473,411	7,529,999	-3.5%	-0.1%	2.9%	0.8%
Albion Township	25,587	26,738	27,038	28,034	28,214	4.5%	1.1%	3.7%	0.6%
Allen Township	91,565	94,193	92,962	95,378	95,432	2.9%	-1.3%	2.6%	0.1%
Elkhart Township	47,850	45,475	47,928	49,718	45,993	-5.0%	5.4%	3.7%	-7.5%
Green Township	38,458	37,393	37,377	38,434	10,500	-2.8%	0.0%	2.8%	-72.7%
Jefferson Township	55,206	57,074	58,260	60,411	60,256	3.4%	2.1%	3.7%	-0.3%
Noble Township	167,665	153,153	136,485	147,096	164,161	-8.7%	-10.9%	7.8%	11.6%
Orange Township	180,874	311,640	328,841	356,200	346,800	72.3%	5.5%	8.3%	-2.6%
Perry Township	143,707	148,545	148,167	152,157	131,242	3.4%	-0.3%	2.7%	-13.7%
Sparta Township	149,891	143,268	150,925	147,039	107,001	-4.4%	5.3%	-2.6%	-27.2%
Swan Township	34,562	35,668	35,974	37,430	37,573	3.2%	0.9%	4.0%	0.4%
Washington Township	32,596	33,897	34,260	35,513	35,733	4.0%	1.1%	3.7%	0.6%
Wayne Township	121,189	126,743	127,731	132,525	133,072	4.6%	0.8%	3.8%	0.4%
York Township	50,517	52,273	53,302	55,273	54,347	3.5%	2.0%	3.7%	-1.7%
Kendallville Civil City	3,489,853	3,891,429	3,817,772	3,971,206	3,992,498	11.5%	-1.9%	4.0%	0.5%
Ligonier Civil City	1,509,890	1,368,902	1,628,660	1,757,628	1,533,820	-9.3%	19.0%	7.9%	-12.7%
Albion Civil Town	839,973	833,447	858,189	871,948	889,594	-0.8%	3.0%	1.6%	2.0%
Avilla Civil Town	585,985	618,733	631,663	655,434	653,583	5.6%	2.1%	3.8%	-0.3%
Cromwell Civil Town	141,829	134,470	138,794	150,782	151,493	-5.2%	3.2%	8.6%	0.5%
Rome City Civil Town	288,494	297,733	302,457	309,022	309,745	3.2%	1.6%	2.2%	0.2%
Wolcottville Civil Town	81,761	84,710	83,761	94,703	96,256	3.6%	-1.1%	13.1%	1.6%
Lakeland School Corp	50,414	49,297	47,607	47,905	49,785	-2.2%	-3.4%	0.6%	3.9%
Central Noble Community School Corp	2,861,280	2,945,868	3,065,246	2,908,739	3,035,970	3.0%	4.1%	-5.1%	4.4%
East Noble School Corp	9,118,167	7,249,090	9,568,147	8,947,942	9,313,708	-20.5%	32.0%	-6.5%	4.1%
West Noble School Corp	6,331,357	5,868,434	5,656,803	5,304,445	5,738,910	-7.3%	-3.6%	-6.2%	8.2%
Smith-Green Community School Corp	567,986	817,706	729,974	532,874	743,308	44.0%	-10.7%	-27.0%	39.5%
Kendallville Public Library	1,209,071	1,256,132	1,266,813	1,276,720	1,301,419	3.9%	0.9%	0.8%	1.9%
Ligonier Public Library	202,189	211,986	217,464	223,816	223,051	4.8%	2.6%	2.9%	-0.3%
Noble County Public Library	826,950	840,753	844,423	846,421	859,507	1.7%	0.4%	0.2%	1.5%
Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Mgmt Dist	220,663	232,728	207,622	228,504	228,864	5.5%	-10.8%	10.1%	0.2%
Ligonier City Redevelopment Commission	129,629	0	0	0	0	-100.0%			
Albion Town Redevelopment Commission	27,837	0	0	0	0	-100.0%			
Avilla Town Redevelopment Commission	60,408	0	0	0	0	-100.0%			
Kendallville Redevelopment Commission	0	0	0	0	0				

Noble County 2013 Tax Rates, Credit Rates, and Net Tax Rates for Homesteads by Taxing District

			Credit Rates						
		-		COIT	CEDIT	CEDIT	LOIT	LOIT	Net Tax Rate,
Dist#	Taxing District	Tax Rate	LOIT PTRC	Homestead	Homestead	Residential	Homestead	Residential	Homesteads
57001	Albion Township	1.3833			23.2707%				1.0614
57002	Albion-Albion	2.5012			23.2707%				1.9192
57003	Allen Township	1.5268			23.2707%				1.1715
57004	Kendallville City-Allen Twp	2.7249			23.2707%				2.0908
57005	Avilla Town	2.3031			23.2707%				1.7672
57006	Elkhart Township	1.8084			23.2707%				1.3876
57007	Green Township	1.4657			23.2707%				1.1246
57008	Jefferson Township	1.4054			23.2707%				1.0784
57009	Noble Township	1.4700			23.2707%				1.1279
57010	Orange Township	1.7215			23.2707%				1.3209
57011	Rome City Town	2.0250			23.2707%				1.5538
57012	Wolcottville Town	2.5475			23.2707%				1.9547
57013	Perry Township	1.8470			23.2707%				1.4172
57014	Ligonier City	2.9490			23.2707%				2.2627
57015	Sparta Township	1.8894			23.2707%				1.4497
57016	Cromwell Town	3.1429			23.2707%				2.4115
57017	Swan Township	1.5012			23.2707%				1.1519
57018	Washington Township	1.8321			23.2707%				1.4058
57019	Wayne Township	1.6027			23.2707%				1.2297
57020	Kendallville City-Wayne Twp	2.7225			23.2707%				2.0890
57021	York Township	1.4236			23.2707%				1.0923
57022	Albion-Jefferson	2.4821			23.2707%				1.9045

Notes: A Taxing District is a geographic area of a county where taxing units overlap, so the sum of the taxing unit tax rates is the total district rate.

The Tax Rate is the gross levy divided by net assessed value, in dollars per \$100 assessed value.

The LOIT, COIT, and CEDIT credits are funded by local income taxes.

The Net Tax Rate for Homesteads is calculated by reducing the tax rate by the various credit percentages.

Noble County 2013 Circuit Breaker Cap Credits

		Circuit Breake					
	(2%) (3%)						Circuit
	(1%)	Other Residential	All Other			_	Breaker as %
Taxing Unit Name	Homesteads	and Farmland	Real/Personal	Elderly	Total	Levy	of Levy
Non-TIF Total	5,597	885,443	7,528	21,255	919,823	37,901,834	2.4%
TIF Total	0	12,026	0	0	12,026	2,966,257	0.4%
County Total	5,597	897,469	7,528	21,255	931,848	40,868,091	2.3%
Noble County	788	129,632	961	4,457	135,838	7,529,999	1.8%
Albion Township	2	870	0	12	884	28,214	3.1%
Allen Township	1	1,392	0	55	1,448	95,432	1.5%
Elkhart Township	0	0	0	52	52	45,993	0.1%
Green Township	0	0	0	12	12	10,500	0.1%
Jefferson Township	0	1	0	40	41	60,256	0.1%
Noble Township	0	0	0	267	267	164,161	0.2%
Orange Township	0	1,313	0	114	1,428	346,800	0.4%
Perry Township	54	3,486	0	48	3,588	131,242	2.7%
Sparta Township	0	709	113	22	845	107,001	0.8%
Swan Township	0	0	0	13	13	37,573	0.0%
Washington Township	0	0	0	18	18	35,733	0.1%
Wayne Township	20	3,950	0	74	4,044	133,072	3.0%
York Township	0	0	0	14	14	54,347	0.0%
Kendallville Civil City	862	205,606	0	2,164	208,632	3,992,498	5.2%
Ligonier Civil City	1,309	84,167	0	456	85,932	1,533,820	5.6%
Albion Civil Town	55	26,682	0	375	27,112	889,594	3.0%
Avilla Civil Town	0	11,898	0	409	12,307	653,583	1.9%
Cromwell Civil Town	0	20,075	3,200	69	23,344	151,493	15.4%
Rome City Civil Town	0	1,904	0	123	2,027	309,745	0.7%
Wolcottville Civil Town	0	10,108	0	67	10,175	96,256	10.6%
Lakeland School Corp	0	5,228	0	35	5,263	49,785	10.6%
Central Noble Community School Corp	41	19,808	0	2,629	22,479	3,035,970	0.7%
East Noble School Corp	729	193,843	0	4,538	199,110	9,313,708	2.1%
West Noble School Corp	1,452	112,237	3,009	2,900	119,597	5,738,910	2.1%
Smith-Green Community School Corp	0	0	0	824	824	743,308	0.1%
Kendallville Public Library	141	36,345	0	626	37,112	1,301,419	2.9%
Ligonier Public Library	116	7,433	0	78	7,626	223,051	3.4%
Noble County Public Library	4	4,814	216	627	5,662	859,507	0.7%
Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Mgmt Dist	24	3,940	29	135	4,129	228,864	1.8%
Ligonier City Redevelopment Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Albion Town Redevelopment Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Avilla Town Redevelopment Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Kendallville Redevelopment Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TIF - Albion Dexter	0	0	0	0	0	37,610	0.0%
TIF - Albion Town	0	3,293	0	0	3,293	139,043	2.4%
TIF - Avilla	0		0	0	135	483,264	0.0%
TIF - Rome City TIF 1	0		0	0	1	1,746	0.1%
TIF - Ligonier Guardian	0	3	0	0	3	911,526	0.0%
TIF - Ligonier Warren	0	2,475	0	0	2,475	474,093	0.5%
TIF - Kendallville Wayne	0	1,607	0	0	1,607	125,198	1.3%
TIF - Kendallville Walmart	0	4,511	0	0	4,511	499,571	0.9%
TIF - Albion Jefferson	0	0	0	0	0	294,206	0.0%

Notes: Circuit breaker tax cap credits are tax savings for taxpayers and revenue losses for local government units. Circuit breaker credits are highest in tax districts with the highest tax rates. These are usually districts that include cities or towns because the municipal tax rate is included in the district tax rate. This means that most circuit breaker credits are in cities and towns and in units that overlap cities and towns.

Circuit Breaker Credit Types:

Homesteads are owner-occupied primary residences and include homestead land and buildings in the 1% tax cap category. Owner-occupied mobile homes and agricultural homesteads are included in this category. This category only includes credits on the portion of the property that qualifies as a homestead.

Other Residential/Farmland includes small rental housing units, larger commercial apartments, second homes, long-term care facilities, and farmland, in the 2% tax cap category.

All Other Real/Personal is commercial, industrial, and utility land and buildings, and business equipment, including agricultural equipment, in the 3% tax cap category. This category also includes credits on the portion of homeowner properties that do not qualify as a homestead.

Elderly includes credits for the 2% annual limit on homestead tax bill increases for low-income homeowners, age 65 and over.

The *Total Levy by Unit* is gross property taxes levied, before all tax credits. For TIF districts, this amount represents the TIF proceeds before circuit breaker credits. This information is included to allow comparison to the circuit breaker revenue losses.

Numbers may not total due to rounding.